UCLouvain

Ifilo2940

2019

Seminar on philosophy of the social sciences

In view of the health context linked to the spread of the coronavirus, the methods of organisation and evaluation of the learning units could be adapted in different situations; these possible new methods have been - or will be - communicated by the teachers to the students.

5 credits 30.0 h Q2

Teacher(s)	Dedeurwaerdere Tom ;Maesschalck Marc (coordinator) ;					
Language :	French					
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve					
Main themes	The seminar will deal with a topic in the area of the philosophy of the human sciences to be determined by its members in relation to research projects they are currently involved in. Active participation in discussions is strongly encouraged. Professors and researchers from the UCL who are interested in the topic and specialists in the topic from outside the UCL are invited to participate in the seminar.					
Aims	Upon successful completion of the seminar the student should be able :					
	• to conduct research into a topic in the area of the philosophy of human sciences based on a critical analysis of major works and texts by authors who are dealing with that topic, and also based on contributions presented in the framework of the seminar;					
	• to write a scientific paper on a precisely delimited research topic that is germane to the topic of the seminar;					
	• to participate actively in cooperative research in the philosophy of the human sciences, especially through participation in discussions of contributions made within the framework of the seminar					
	The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".					
Evaluation methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change. Students will be asked to write a 10 page on the basis of an author or a subject studied in the course. After emailing the paper, the student will receive a question on the paper to be prepared for the oral exam.					
	The student will have approximately 15 min. to present this answer during the oral exam.					
	The paper may be written in French, English, or Italian, with the professor's agreement.					
	Students are invited to discuss with the professor the subject on which they would like to write their paper.					
Content	Several contemporary authors have undertaken an analysis of social and political issues by way of theories that are able to articulate, on an ontological level, a return to the subject and a conception of the world-totality, incorporating the biodiversity of living beings. Among these authors, Badiou, Agamben, Zizeck, alongside Guillaume Sibertin-Blanc and Vladimir Safatle, all have in common both a systematic understanding of being as a multiplicity without totalitizing unity, as well as recourse to a psychoanalytic conceptual framework to grasp the conditions under which we can ontologically affirm that a discursively- and reflexively-structured subjective totality manages to emerge and differentiate itself as a singularity. Their goal is to thus construct symptomological knowledge of collective unconsciousnesses, in particular when they identify with forms of life that are supposed to incorporate the constitutive antagonisms of the social and to produce imaginary unities such as those promised by the new populisms.					
	This seminar will undertake a reading journey through a series of articles that are significant to this new wave in social theory, to elucidate the key role of social ontology in this context.					
	In this setting, we will also study the research of Professor Theresa Calvet from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (Brazil).					

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Bibliography	BADIOU, Alain. L'Ethique. Essai sur la conscience du mal. Caen, Nous, 2019. Préfaces, introduction, Chap. IV (L'éthique des vérités) et Chap V. (Le problème du mal). KENNETH R. (2005), "Universalism and the Jewish Exception: Lacan, Badiou, Rosenzweig", in <i>Umbr(a): The Dark God</i> , No. 1, p. 43-71.					
	LENOBLE, Jacques, "L'enjeu du dernier enseignement de Lacan: Vers une approche réflexive de l'Un réel" in Teoria e Critica della Regolazione Sociale - "La legge di Lacan", dir. A. Andronico - Universita degli Studi di Catania" - Vol. 1, no. 2/2016, p. 11-40 (2017)					
	MAESSCHALCK, Marc, « Imaginaire instituant versus logique des sciences sociales », in <i>Castoriadis et les sciences sociales</i> , G. Gendreau et T. Tranchant (dirs), in <i>Cahier SOCIÉTÉ</i> , n° 1, Québec, 2019, pp. 17-33.					
	SAFATLE, Vladimir. "Fear, Helplessness, and Political Bodies as Circuits of Affect: Freud on Social Emancipation". In <i>The Undecidable Unconscious: A Journal of Deconstruction and Psychoanalysis</i> . University of Nebraska Press, Volume 4, 2017, pp. 67-91.					
	SIBERTIN-BLANC, Guillaume. « Décolonisation du sujet et résistance du symptôme. Clinique et politique dans Les Damnés de la terre », « Cahiers philosophiques », 2014/3 n° 138, pp. 47 à 66.					
	ŽIŽEK, Slavoj, The Parallax View. Cambridge, The MIT press, 2006. Chap. V(From Surplus-Value to Surplus-Power)					
Faculty or entity in charge	EFIL					

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)							
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims			
Master [120] in Ethics	ETHI2M	5		Q			
Certificat universitaire en philosophie (approfondissement)	FILA9CE	5		Q			
Master [120] in Philosophy	FILO2M	5		•			